

The Director of Central Intelligence

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Washington, D.C. 20503

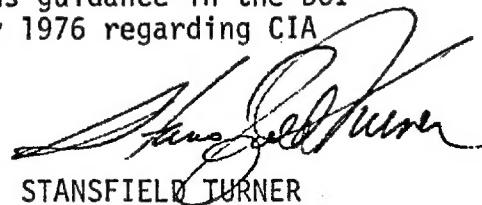
15 May 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: CIA Regulation on Relations with U.S. News Media

1. The attached CIA regulation on relations with U.S. news media enlarges on and updates the DCI Statement of Policy on this subject which was disseminated for your information and guidance on 11 March 1976.

2. It is requested that this new regulation be used as guidance for NFIB principals, in lieu of the DCI Statement of Policy of 11 February 1976, in formulating policy on relationships with the news media. This new guidance leaves intact the previous guidance in the DCI Statement of Policy of 11 February 1976 regarding CIA relations with churchmen.



STANSFIELD TURNER

Attachment
As stated

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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NEW REGULATIONS APPROVED ON CIA RELATIONS WITH U.S. NEWS MEDIA

The Director of Central Intelligence, Admiral Stansfield Turner, ordered implementation of the following regulations on 30 November 1977:

1. Policy. The special status afforded the press under the Constitution necessitates a careful policy of self-restraint on the part of the Agency in regard to its relations with U.S. news media organizations and personnel. Accordingly, CIA will not:

a. enter into any relationships with full-time or part-time journalists (including so-called "stringers") accredited by a U.S. news service, newspaper, periodical, radio, or television network or station, for the purpose of conducting any intelligence activities. The term "accredited" means any full- or part-time employee of U.S. or foreign nationality who is formally authorized by contract or by the issuance of press credentials to represent himself or herself either in the U.S. or abroad as a correspondent for a U.S. news media organization or who is officially recognized by a foreign government to represent a U.S. news media organization;

b. without the specific, express approval of senior management of the organization concerned, enter into any relationships with non-journalist staff employees of any U.S. news media organization for the purpose of conducting any intelligence activities;

c. use the name or facilities of any U.S. news media organization to provide cover for any Agency employees or activities.

2. Limitations

a. The policies set forth above are not designed to inhibit open relationships with journalists (as for example contracts to perform translating services or to lecture at Agency training courses) which are entered into for reasons unrelated to such persons' affiliation with a particular news media organization. Willingness on both sides to acknowledge the fact and nature of the relationship is the essential characteristic of the open relationships into which CIA will enter with journalists under this provision.

b. In addition, CIA will not deny any person including full-time or part-time accredited journalists and stringers regardless of profession, the opportunity to furnish information which may be useful to his or her Government. Therefore, CIA will continue to permit unpaid relationships with journalists or other members of U.S. news media organizations who voluntarily maintain contact for the purpose of providing information on matters of foreign intelligence or foreign counterintelligence interest to the U.S. Government.

c. Likewise, the Agency, through the Office of the Assistant for Public Affairs to the Director, will continue to maintain regular liaison with representatives of the news media to provide public information, answers to inquiries, and assistance in obtaining unclassified briefings on substantive matters.

3. Exceptions. No exceptions to the policies and prohibitions stated above may be made except with the specific approval of the DCI.